

ITEM: 9

SUBJECT: Wastewater Regionalization, Placer County

BOARD ACTION: *Informational Item*

BACKGROUND: The City of Lincoln and the City of Roseville own and operate three regional wastewater treatment facilities in Placer County. The regional facilities have treatment process capacity to provide Title 22-level tertiary treatment for water recycling opportunities, and compliance with California Toxics Rule (CTR) criteria and Basin Plan objectives for discharge to surface water. The Cities of Lincoln and Roseville took proactive roles in wastewater regionalization by designing treatment facilities to be expandable, purchasing excess land for expansion, and over-sizing influent sewer line to accommodate future connections.

Regionalization is already underway. Wastewater from communities and unincorporated Placer County is currently routed to the City of Roseville Pleasant Grove wastewater treatment plant (WWTP). Wastewater from the Placer County's Sewer Maintenance District (SMD) No. 2 WWTP is routed to the City of Roseville Dry Creek WWTP.

The Placer County Department of Facility Services owns and operates four wastewater treatment facilities that have individual surface water and/or land discharges: (1) the SMD No. 1 WWTP serving unincorporated areas in the Auburn vicinity, (2) the SMD No. 3 WWTP serving Granite Bay, (3) the Sheridan WWTP, and (4) the Applegate WWTP. Additionally, the City of Auburn and the community of Newcastle have their own separate treatment facilities. Many of these small facilities are aging and have compliance issues with their NPDES permits and/or waste discharge requirements. As population grows, and waste discharge requirements become more stringent, there is increasing concern regarding the capability of these individual facilities to comply waste discharge requirements.

In 1997, Placer County evaluated wastewater treatment alternatives to address future waste discharge requirements and explosive residential growth. In March 1998, Placer County's study titled *Evaluation of Regional Wastewater Treatment Options for Placer County* recommended that the smaller wastewater treatment systems be abandoned in favor of regionalizing into the City of Lincoln and the City of Roseville regional facilities. Also in 1998, the Placer Nevada Wastewater Authority (Joint Powers Authority or JPA) was organized. The active member agencies of the JPA are Placer County, City of Auburn, Newcastle Sanitary District, South Placer Municipal Utility District, the City of Roseville

and the City of Lincoln. The JPA has been working to obtain funding for planning, design and environmental review of the regional system.

The first phase of the regionalization effort, construction of the Placer County Regional Wastewater Pipeline along State Route 193, is in progress. The segment of the pipeline from the intersection of SR 193 and Sierra College Blvd to the Lincoln WWTP has been completed and surrounding dischargers now have the option of purchasing reserve capacity into the regional influent pipeline for future connection.

In January 2008, the JPA provided the Regional Water Board with a status of the County-wide regionalization efforts. Included in the January 2008 Board information item, the JPA and member agencies requested Board compliance schedules that are compatible with the time needed to implement regionalization pipeline projects, connect into the appropriate regional facility, and cease individual discharges. Since January 2008, the Regional Water Board has been adopting extended compliance schedules to accommodate non-compliance and ongoing regionalization efforts. In 2008, the Regional Water Board also renewed the NPDES Permits for both the City of Roseville regional facilities and the City of Lincoln regional facility.

The timing of this informational item was intentional, to provide the Regional Water Board with a status of the successes and obstacles in the ongoing regionalization effort. During the information item presentation, members of the JPA will provide the Board with a status report on the available funding and regulatory issues, and the latest plans to upgrade individual facilities while potentially maintaining long-term regionalization efforts.

#### ISSUES:

In the recent year, NPDES permits for several of the affected wastewater treatment facilities have been renewed, and enforcement orders amended, to address the timing needed for decision-making and necessary facility upgrades to comply with new discharge requirements. Adopted permit renewals and enforcement orders have included compliance schedules to allow time for these facilities to complete upgrades or connect to the regional system. However, in some cases, it is not clear that the regionalization effort will be far enough along to assure that the facility will be able to comply with the granted time schedules.

Mgmt. Review \_\_\_\_\_  
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